FY 2009 Capital Budget TPS Report 50481

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development** 

**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)** 

**Grant Recipient: Institute of the North Federal Tax ID:** 75-3155877

**Project Title:** 

# Institute of the North - Research and Operations Grant

State Funding Requested: \$ 100,000 House District: Anchorage Areawide (17-32)

Future Funding May Be Requested

## **Brief Project Description:**

Appropriation would assist Institute of the North in exploring a number of critically important issues facing Alaska and the Arctic.

**Funding Plan:** 

Total Cost of Project: \$100,000

<u>Funding Secured</u> <u>Other Pending Requests</u> <u>Anticipated Future Need</u>

Amount FY Amount FY Amount FY

There is no other funding needed

## **Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Since 2006, there has been a collaborative effort between the institute and the state to work on issues important to the Arctic and the State. The institute is asking for a \$100,000 general support grant to continue research and work on Arctic energy, shipping, aviation and telecommunications.

Since its creation in 1994, the Institute has gained a wide reputation as a center for the study of commonly owned lands, seas and resources using the "owner state" of Alaska as a model. Its mission combines both economic relevance and geopolitical urgency as most trouble spots around the world are found in regions where the commons has been mismanaged or exploited.

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## **Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Institute of the North

# **Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Contact Name: Phil Cutler, Dep Dir, Finance

Phone Number: (907) 771-2465

Address: 935 West Third Ave, Anchorage, AK 99501

Email: pcutler@institutenorth.org

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? Yes X No

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For use by Co-chair Staff Only:

Contact Name: Miles Baker Contact Number: 465-3873

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Phone: (907) 343-2201 Fax: (907) 343-2211 wjhickel@gci.net www.institutenorth.org

WALTER J. HICKEL FOUNDER BEN ELLIS MANAGING DIRECTOR

March 18, 2008

The Honorable Bert Stedman Alaska State Senate State Capitol

Juneau, Alaska 99801

Fax: 1-907-465-3922

The Honorable Kevin Meyer
Alaska State House of Representatives
State Capitol

Juneau, Alaska 99801

Fax: 1-907-465-3476

Dear Senator Stedman and Representative Meyer:

This is an unprecedented time for Alaska and the Arctic. The Institute of the North, which I founded in 1994, is positioned to continue to lead on a number of key issues that are vital to our State and the future of the Arctic.

Since 2006, the institute has received funding from the State of Alaska to work on issues including Arctic energy, shipping, aviation and telecommunications. Through an oversight, funding for the institute was omitted from this year's budget process. Now that this oversight has been called to my attention, I am asking you to consider providing \$100,000 of the general support of the institute, as was done in the 2008 budget, so we can continue our collaborative relationship.

I am asking my managing director, Ben Ellis, to follow up with you immediately with any supportive documentation you might request.

With best regards.

Sincerely,

Walter J. Hickel

### **Institute of the North General Funding Request**

The Institute of the North is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit educational organization, founded by former Gov. Walter J. Hickel in 1994, specializing how to utilize and care for the resource-rich commons for the benefit of those living in the region. Areas of special study include Alaska, the many regions of the Arctic and other areas of the world with sparse populations yet wealthy in human cultures and natural resources.

#### **General Operational Support**

- Continue to work with the FAA on international demonstration aviation projects that will benefit Alaska
- Provide support for the Arctic Council's Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment.
- Act as the Secretariat of the Arctic Council's Arctic Information and Communications Technology Assessment
- Enhance our weekly web-based electronic newsletters on Arctic infrastructure and energy
- Support our work with Adjutant General Campbell on the Security and Defense program

#### Fall and Spring Alaska Dialogues

Now in its eighth year, the Alaska Dialogue brings together each fall Alaskans, and those who care about Alaska, to address the state's most difficult issues in an environment of trust. As the state's premier policy forum, participants from various political parties and ideologies are asked to leave partisan rivalries and special interests at the door as they wrestle with the critical issues facing Alaskans. Participants have included Governor Palin, many sitting or former members of the Alaska State Legislature, former cabinet officers, community and industry, Native leaders, academicians, as well as Alaskans from all walks of life.

Joining the traditional fall Dialogue this coming year will be a Spring Alaska Dialogue, set for the Alyeska Hotel and Resort in Girdwood, May 8-10, 2008. The dialogue will follow upon the 2007 fall dialogue by encouraging "emerging leaders" to attend – young professionals from across the state who are just as passionate about Alaska as their elders. The 2008 Fall Alaska Dialogue will once again take place in September at the Talkeetna Alaskan Lodge.

#### **ANILCA Seminars**

At the request of Congress, the institute created a detailed and in-depth training curriculum on the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) of 1980. The curriculum illuminates the Alaska context for this sweeping and historic lands act and explains, in detail, its unique aspects. The goal is to help all stakeholders, including federal agency personnel, state government leaders and land managers, Native corporate staff, in-holders and the general public to better understand this pervasive and controversial law so it can be implemented fully and fairly.

The institute's ANILCA seminars have been held in Anchorage, Juneau and Fairbanks. Future seminar sites may include Washington, D.C.

Total for general funding request\_

\$100,000